Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A method for synthesizing cDNA possessing a consecutive sequence starting with a nucleotide adjacent to a cap structure of mRNA, which method comprises the ~~processes for~~ steps of:
(i) annealing a double-stranded DNA primer and an RNA mixture containing mRNA possessing a cap structure,
(ii) preparing a conjugate of an mRNA/cDNA heteroduplex and a double-stranded DNA primer by synthesizing the first-strand cDNA primed with the double-stranded DNA primer using reverse transcriptase, and
(iii) circularizing the conjugate of the mRNA/cDNA heteroduplex and the double-stranded DNA primer by joining the 3' and 5' ends of the DNA strand containing cDNA using ligase.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein mRNA possessing a cap structure is contained in a cell extract.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein mRNA possessing a cap structure is synthesized by in vitro transcription.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the primer sequence of the double-stranded DNA primer contains a sequence complementary to a partial sequence of mRNA possessing a cap structure.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the primer sequence of the double-stranded DNA primer contains an oligo dT complementary to a poly(A) sequence of mRNA possessing a cap structure.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the ligase is T4 RNA ligase.

7. (Currently amended) The method of ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, which comprises the following ~~process~~ step between the ~~process~~ step (ii) and the ~~process~~ step (iii):

(ii') generating a 5'-protruding end or a blunt end at the terminal of the double-stranded DNA primer by cutting the conjugate of the mRNA/cDNA heteroduplex and the double-stranded DNA primer using a restriction enzyme.

8. (Currently amended) The method of ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, which further comprises the following ~~process~~ step:

(iv) synthesizing the second-strand cDNA by replacing an RNA strand with a DNA strand in the conjugate of the mRNA/cDNA heteroduplex and the double-stranded DNA primer.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the double-stranded DNA primer contains a replication origin or both a replication origin and a promoter for cDNA expression.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 8, which further comprises the following ~~process~~ step:

(v) incorporating the double-stranded cDNA composed of the first-strand cDNA and the second-strand cDNA into a vector DNA.

11. (Currently amended) A cDNA library that is a population of clones containing double-stranded cDNA synthesized by the method of claim 8 ~~or claim 10~~, of which more than 60% of the cDNA clones possesses a 5'-end nucleotide of (dT)ndG (n=0-5) followed by a consecutive sequence starting with a nucleotide adjacent to a cap structure of mRNA.

12. (Currently amended) A method for selecting a cDNA ~~clonepossessinga~~ clone possessing a consecutive sequence starting with a nucleotide adjacent to a cap structure

of mRNA, from clones in the cDNA library of ~~elam~~ claim 11, wherein a cDNA clone possessing a 5'-end nucleotide of (dT)ndG (n=0-5) is selected as an objective clone.

13. (Currently amended) A double-stranded DNA primer possessing an oligo (dT)n (n=15-100) as a primer part, in which one terminal part of a primer side has an 8-base recognition restriction enzyme site RE1, and another terminal part has an 8-base recognition restriction enzyme site RE2 and a restriction enzyme site RE3 generating a 5'-~~proturding~~ protruding end or a blunt end.

14. (Currently amended) The double-stranded DNA primer of ~~elam~~ claim 13, which contains a replication origin or both a replication origin and a promoter for cDNA expression.

15. (Currently amended) The double-stranded DNA primer of ~~elam~~ claim 14, which is a vector primer derived from pGCAP10 comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

16. (Currently amended) A reagent kit for cDNA synthesis, which comprises the double-stranded DNA primer of ~~elam~~ claim 14 ~~or elam 15~~, reverse transcriptase and its reaction buffer solution, T4 RNA ligase and its reaction buffer solution, and model mRNA possessing a cap structure.

17. (New) A cDNA library that is a population of clones containing double-stranded cDNA synthesized by the method of claim 10, of which more than 60% of the cDNA clones possesses a 5'-end nucleotide of (dT)ndG (n=0-5) followed by a consecutive sequence starting with a nucleotide adjacent to a cap structure of mRNA.

18. (New) A method for selecting a cDNA clone possessing a consecutive sequence starting with a nucleotide adjacent to a cap structure of mRNA, from clones in the cDNA library of claim 17, wherein a cDNA clone possessing a 5'-end nucleotide of (dT)ndG (n=0-5) is selected as an objective clone.

19. (New) A reagent kit for cDNA synthesis, which comprises the double-stranded DNA primer of claim 15, reverse transcriptase and its reaction buffer solution, T4 RNA ligase and its reaction buffer solution, and model mRNA possessing a cap structure.